

**BROOKINGS HARBOR PILOT**

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Entered as second-class matter, at the postoffice at Brookings, Oregon, March 7, 1946, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

MINNA AKERS, Owner and Publisher

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**The Telephone Service in Brookings**

Brookings and the surrounding area is served by the West Coast Telephone Company. But never was the word "serve" put to a more perverted use than it is in this case.

We have here an entire area whose economic welfare is hamstrung by what is, in our opinion, the worst telephone service that could be visited upon a city.

Along the coast, we are at the mercy of our communications. There is nothing connecting us with the rest of civilization except the coastal highway and the telephone lines. And there is nothing remotely amusing in the spectacle of Brookings business men driving forty or fifty miles to neighboring cities because the telephone is chronically out of order.

And neither is there anything funny in a situation wherein a community of 2,500 people, and a trading area of six or seven thousand, have resource to only a handful of telephones. The people of Brookings have waited long and patiently for the telephones necessary to carry on their affairs, and the telephones have not been forthcoming.

And, finally, the lack of facilities locally to carry on repair operations and business dealings is one more indignity heaped upon our community. We like Crescent City—it's a lovely city. But we're tired of running 28 miles down there every time we want to report the telephone out of order, which is an average of four times per day, more or less.

We do not know how much of the trouble we have with our telephone service is due to the fact that our central station is in another city and another state. Certainly, with the great amount of trouble we do have, that must contribute to it. . . . even west Coast couldn't arrange all that poor service after getting through central. But even apart from the horrible service, there is no need for this community to be dependent upon business facilities which are so remote.

West Coast will undoubtedly claim that there are too few telephones here to justify central facilities. That may be true now, but it is true only because West Coast has failed to install the phones necessary to this community.

When a company assumes the status of a public utility, it also assumes an obligation to the community it serves. West Coast has consistently failed to meet that obligation, and its failure has hurt this city. If it continues to do so, we in Brookings must take every available action to gain the telephone service we need.—WGP

**Letter From Washington**

By HARRIS ELLSWORTH, M.C.

This is written on Saturday. Before long a weary and more or less gloomy Congress will close up shop and the members will head for home. It is always a little discouraging to hear a Congressional recess referred to as a "vacation." The fact is that a member of Congress generally has less time to himself when he is home in his state or district than when he is in Washington attending the session. We do not complain about this because it is a part of the job, and a pleasant part, but a recess certainly is not a vacation.

I referred to this Congress as being gloomy. There are two very different sets of reasons for that condition. First and foremost, the sudden passing of Senator Robert A. Taft of Ohio cast a deep sadness over the closing hours of this session. Senator Taft was genuinely liked, admired, and respected by every member of Congress. He was a tower of strength to the Eisenhower Administration and was truly "Mr. Republican" in the Senate and in the country. The death of Senator Taft followed within a few days the passing of Senator Tobey of New Hampshire, also a respected and popular Senator.

During the less than seven months since this session began four other Senators and Representatives have died, including Senator Willis Smith of North Carolina; Representatives Joseph Bryson of South Carolina, Garrett L. Withers of Kentucky, and Merlin Hull of Wisconsin. The Congress with a total membership in House and Senate of 531 is a relatively small body numerically. These men all were our friends and we miss them.

The other basis for a lack of

enthusiasm lies in the nature of the work which had to be done during this session. It is far more pleasant to spend money lavishly than it is to pinch pennies and save. This session of Congress is the first one in many years to crack down sharply and heavily on budget requests. It knocked almost 20 per cent (one-fifth) off the post-election Truman budget which, I believe, he dared Congress to try and cut. The reduction figure in dollars will be close to fourteen BILLIONS.

But even so, and to further dampen any feeling of cheerfulness, it has not yet been possible to provide any tax relief. This will come at the end of this year. Then to top off the financial story, one of the last acts of this session was to face the necessity of raising the legal debt limit of the Federal treasury. Although that actually amounts to little more than a legal technicality, it did serve to point out forcefully that the Eisenhower Administration inherited a flock of bills which must be paid before government finances can be put on a sound basis and taxes reduced. The situation we took over was something like that of a person who buys a quit-claim deed to a business and then has to mortgage the property in order to get rid of the leins and old debts which are presented to him for payment.

It has been no fun either for the Eisenhower Administration or for the Congress to halt the happy stroll down the road to state socialism. A super-state with astronomical amounts to spend can and does provide many "benefits" and generally a condition that appears to be prosperity. It is truly a happy condition while it lasts if the costs are ignored. But big government, which does or promises to do something for everybody, must be paid for sooner or later. If the cost were in cash alone the problem would be simple. Unfortunately, people who have surrendered their independence to their government in return for "benefits" and "security" have found to their sorrow that oppression and loss of individual freedom ultimately follow. Recent as well as older history records this fact. That is why the fight against big government, although it may be politically unpopular, is so vitally important to us all!

Our position in world affairs, which the new regime inherited, was anything but pleasant. That responsibility lies mostly with the President. He has displayed a firmness which I feel sure the other governments of the world have noted with respect. Our policy of appeasement and retreat which ran much too long is totally ended. The shooting war in Korea has been stopped and for the first time since the so-called cold war was started by the Russian government, we are fighting back aggressively with food and definite encouragement for those who will resist oppression. The cold war is not and never can be a static condition—it is dynamic. Communist aggression will either advance or it will be fought back—it cannot be "contained."

This, I believe, is the last "Letter from Washington" for this year. I do not expect a special session to be called, so unless that does happen I will not be writing from Washington again until Congress convenes its second session in January. Meanwhile, after about the 20th of August, we will be at home in Roseburg—at home, that is, unless I am visiting the seven counties in the Fourth District. I hope to spend at least a week in each county.

A fly which cannot find a feeding place will live only 3 or 4 days, while well-fed ones live as long as 60 days.

**Television Starts In Grants Pass**

Television made its appearance in southwestern Oregon last week, but it didn't have much effect upon Brookings.

Station KBES-TV of Medford, Channel 5, commenced operation Saturday, after having had a test pattern on the air for several days.

Although local dealers made no effort to receive the valley station, it was reported that it gave a very faint signal in Crescent City.

Local people are saving their efforts for the Eureka station, which should be on the air within a few weeks.

**Fair Tickets Now on Sale**

SALEM— Advance mail order ticket sale for 1953 Oregon state fair events opened this week at the state fairgrounds, Salem. The fair opens Saturday morning, September 5 and closes Saturday night, September 12.

Events for which reserved seats

are sold are the nightly grandstand stage show, the rodeo and the horse racing. Both the stage show and the rodeo will start at 8 p.m. all eight evenings of the fair. In addition, rodeo performances will be at 2:30 p.m. Sunday and Monday (Labor Day) September 6 and 7. Horse racing post time is 1:15 p.m. daily except Sunday.

Reserved seat prices for the stage show and the rodeo are \$1.25 and 1.50 while racing reserved prices are 70c and \$1.

The advance box office seat sale now is open from 1 to 5 p.m. daily except Sundays at the fairgrounds in Salem.

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